

## Holiday Goods!

—AT—  
**C. EVANS CO.**

Largest and best selected stock of Dry Goods and Fancy Goods ever exhibited for Holiday Presents.

Time to make your selections, while the stock is new

and before the Great Holiday Rush Commences.

we will carefully pack and mark your purchases, and

will save from \$5.00 to \$10.00 on a silk dress by purchasing it from us.

**SILKS AND VELVETS FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS.**

offer a complete stock in all the best makes of black and colored silks and velvets.

**DRESS GOODS.**

system of one of our novelties, just received for the Xmas trade, would make a

**Needlework Department Novelties for the Holiday Trade.**

**TOILET SETS.**

are an almost endless variety of new and handsome styles. Can only quote a few

**OTHER GOODS.** Shopping bags and satchels, an immense variety, from

**C. EVANS COMPANY,**

113, 115 Houston, 112, 114 Main Streets,

**FIRST NATIONAL BANK,**

ER HOUSTON AND SECOND STS., FORT WORTH, TEXAS.

Cash Capital and Surplus \$450,000.

TRANSACTIONS A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS.

**THE FORT WORTH NATIONAL BANK,**

Successors to Tidball, VanZandt & Co., Fort Worth, Texas.

**THE TRADERS' NATIONAL BANK,**

Worth, Texas. Second Street, between Houston and Throckmorton.

**OUR STOCK IS MOST COMPLETE**

IN ALL ITS BRANCHES.

**French Imported Cream**

**and Crystalized Fruits,**

IN ONE, TWO AND THREE-POUND BOXES

ADAPTED TO THE FINE RETAIL TRADE.

**CAPERA & BRO.,**

Corner Fourth and Houston Streets.

**LAMPTON BROS.**

**BOOTS AND SHOES.**

FINE GOODS A SPECIALTY.

111 Houston Street, Fort Worth.

**EVERYTHING NEW! 12 PRICES REDUCED!**

DECEMBER 12 ON ALL

**Boots, Shoes and Rubbers.**

**LEWIS BROS. & CO.**

ELEGANT PATTERNS CHRISTMAS SLIPPERS.

**CHEAP!**

**PORT WORTH, Texas.**

## WASHINGTON.

**Will Judge Reagan Live to See His Inter-State Commerce Bill Become a Law?**

**The Revised Rules Ready, but Debate on the Subject Likely to Be Postponed.**

**An Editor Arrested on a Damaging Charge.—The Condition of Our Merchant Marine.**

**Chairman of the Commerce Committee.**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—I met Judge Reagan the other day, and I was sorry to see the traces of age upon him. He is now sixty-eight years old, and his recent illness has left him a changed man. His physicians say that he could scarcely survive another attack. In early life Judge Reagan had a most excellent start, and had it not been for the war he would to-day occupy a much more prominent place before the country. He was at one time the acting secretary of the treasury of the Confederate government, and at the close of the war found his props knocked from under him and the government which he upheld overturned. He has represented his district in Texas since the Forty-fourth congress, continuously, and received no opposition whatever as a candidate for re-election in the Forty-eighth congress.

Judge Reagan is held in the highest esteem here, as well as at home. He is a strong man. As chairman of the committee on commerce, he has done more than any other man in congress to promote the commercial industries of the country, and if his interstate commerce bill is not passed this session, congress will lack in a duty it owes to the people of this country. I hope this measure will pass during the incumbency of Judge Reagan, and its enactment into law would only be a proper recognition of the able services which he has contributed for so many years in its behalf. The judge was most successful in drawing a good seat on Monday where he can be seen and heard, and where he will carefully watch the interests of the great state of Texas.

**An Outline of the Programme.**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Four hundred and seventy bills and nine joint resolutions have been introduced in the senate, but only two committees have held their first meeting, and no measures have been reported back to the senate, and no calendar has therefore been made. Beyond the probable discussion and possible passage of a presidential succession bill, to be reported Monday, and the adoption of Mr. Frye's resolution, embodying a code of joint rules, no programme for legislative business during the week can be indicated. Four hundred and fifty-six nominations have been sent in to the senate and many of them will probably be reported at the first executive session. A considerable portion of the latter half of the week is likely to be spent with closed doors. Although the committee on rules of the house of representatives has completed its labor of formulating a new code of rules for the government of the house, it is not thought probable that a discussion of them will begin. It is expected that the debate will be postponed until Tuesday, in order that members may have an opportunity to see the proposed revision in print. There is a desire on the part of many members to have a call of states on Monday for the introduction of bills, for reference to appropriate committees when appointed, and in deference to this desire it was informally agreed yesterday to make no opposition to such call. There are, however, members of the house who express an intention to oppose the introduction of bills until the house shall have finally determined by vote on Morrison's code of jurisdiction of the various committees, and who hold that it will be useless to inundate the speaker's table with a load of bills until some proper outlet is provided for them. As the house is not governed at present by any definite system of rules, these members contend that it will require unanimous consent to order a call, and assert that this cannot be obtained. Discussion of rules will consume the remainder of the week, and content over the appropriations committee promises to be sharp and interesting. There is talk of an adjournment for the holiday recess before the end of the week, but no definite plans have been arranged, and it is probable that adjournment will not be reached until the week following.

**One on Gay Carleton.**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Gay Carleton, author of "Victor Durand," one of the most successful plays of the day, who is well known in Washington, is credited with the latest bon mot from New York. Last week at a lunch given at the Lotus club the host introduced some pompous person he had imported from Pennsylvania. Pomposo is the most delicate, as it is the most delicious, of fishes, and a long trip on ice is not good for it. When the dish was served and after the host, with some unfortunately chosen remarks, had served it, the fact that it was overripe, not to say insipid, became painfully evident. There was an embarrassed pause, and the host in great distress began to explain how far the fish had come, mentioning the hot weather in Florida and finally, looking around in helpless apology, remarked that he couldn't imagine how the pompous had come. Quick as lightning Carleton looked up, his intelligent countenance wreathed in emotion. "If I tell you, you know. Mine o-o-o-came in a barrel." The dish and the restraint disappeared simultaneously.

**Not So Bad After All.**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Jarvis Patton, commissioner of navigation, has just completed his annual report, giving

an account of the work of the new bureau of navigation since its establishment by the Dingy shipping act. In comparing the status of American shipping with that of other maritime countries, he says: Though we have not kept pace on the sea, with the early promise of our national youth. The complaints, however, are not true that our shipping is going to ruin, as our mercantile navy stands second among the nations of the world, and still forms one element of our greatness. The total number of vessels employed on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, including the West India, and all inland navigation, excepting the northern lakes, on June 30, 1885, was 19,123, and their tonnage 245,672. Of this number 13,502 were sailing vessels, 4111 steam vessels, 256 canal boats and 804 barges. The total number of vessels engaged in coastwise trade, excluding those engaged in fisheries and upon northern lakes and western rivers, was 15,918, their tonnage 2,001,917.

Commissioner Patton gives figures to show that our coasting trade is by far the most flourishing branch of the United States merchant marine and says if we include lake and river tonnage it is the most formidable coasting fleet in the world, surpassing in point of tonnage the combined mercantile navies of any two nations, excluding Great Britain. Moreover this fleet of coasters of various kinds, built for conducting the traffic of our extended coast and long rivers, is admirably adapted to the diversified variety of business it was constructed to perform. It is in point of equipment, efficiency of vessels, and accommodations and comfort for those on board, second to no fleet in the world.

The commissioner says that the relief afforded American shipping, through the operation of the shipping act of June 30, 1884, is already felt in our favor. But our expectations of permanent revival must be delayed until the reaction comes, with a demand for more tonnage. He thinks that everything should be done to encourage American iron ship-builders, and the practice adopted in France and other nations of granting bounties on ship-building in order to give their vessels equal standing as to price is commended. On the subject of pilotage the commissioner remarks that the time has arrived for congress to take charge of the whole question of pilotage, in the interest of pilots themselves, and of others concerned. The system of pilotage varies in many states and the rates are too high in nearly all. These are shown to be oppressive to shipowners, and to demand the introduction of a new system, that shall operate alike throughout the Union.

Local taxation of shipping in various states is also dealt with, and it is suggested that shipping constitutes a class of property, and if not altogether exempt from taxation, should only be partially taxed. In no case, says the commissioner, should the tax be as high as the American shipowner, who has to bear a double burden in the decrease in value of his property and competition with foreign shipowners. The extension to river steamers of the limited liability section of act June 25, 1884, is strongly urged.

**An Editor Arrested.**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Thomas G. Morrow, editor and proprietor of the Gazette of this city, was arrested to-day on a warrant sworn out by A. T. Hoss, charging him with conspiracy in procuring the appointment of Frank Thomas, as clerk in the agricultural department, Thomas not performing any service for the government and paying his salary over to Morrow. A similar warrant was issued for Gen. Carmichael, who was chief clerk of the agricultural department, who is not present in the city. Morrow was released on bail.

**SOUTHERN RAILROADS.**

**The Pool That Resulted From the New York Conference.**

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 13.—M. H. Smith, president of the Louisville and Nashville railroad, returned from New York to-night, where he has been conferring with leading representatives of Southern railway and steamship associations. An agreement was reached Thursday, which it is hoped, will avert the ruinous competition that has been in vogue during the last year or two. The Mobile & Ohio, which hitherto remained out of the association, is a party to the agreement. It is claimed that the division of traffic agreed upon will be equitable and that none of the Ohio river points will be discriminated against. The contract was agreed to by Frank S. Bond, president of the Cincinnati Southern and controlled lines of that system; by T. M. R. Talbot, vice-president of the Mobile & Ohio; Maj. Henry Flank, general manager of the Memphis & Charleston and Knoxville & Ohio; J. W. Thomas, president of the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis; and M. H. Smith, president of the Louisville & Nashville roads.

President of the lines, parties to the contract, are to form a board of contract, which will act upon such matters as may be referred to it by the general freight agents or commissioners.

**ADIEU TO GALVESTON.**

Mr. Newman Leaves the Island City to dwell in the "Future Great."

GALVESTON, TEX., Dec. 13.—Mr. W. H. Newman and his estimable wife left for Galveston to-day and started for St. Louis, where Col. Newman on the 1st prox. assumes the responsible and important office of general traffic manager of the entire Missouri Pacific system. During his residence of several years here, as traffic manager for Louisiana and Texas, Mr. Newman by his uniform fairness and appreciation of the business public and by his ever genial disposition and freedom to the humblest workman, has endeared himself to the people of Galveston as but very few men have done with a life-long residence here. What is true of him in Galveston, St. Louis gains a valuable citizen in William H. Newman, and regrets and good wishes of the larger portion of this community follow him to his new home and greater field.

Oscar G. Murray, who succeeds Mr. Newman in Galveston, has been in harness since the 1st inst.

## OLD WORLD DOINGS.

**A Fearful Fire at Plymouth Causes a Loss of Life Amid Sickening Scenes.**

**Russia Offers Her Consent to the Union if Bulgaria Will Submit to Her Domination.**

**The Son of an Eminent French Artist Bitten by a Mad Dog—Gladstone's Multitudinous Mail.**

**An English Holocaust.**

LONDON, Dec. 13.—At Plymouth to-day a tenement house on Love street, in a low, squallid neighborhood, took fire, and a terrible calamity resulted. The flames burned rapidly and fiercely, and when at last subdued, twelve calcined human bodies were found among the ruins. Two others are missing, and in all probability they too were burned to death. One victim was smashed to pieces by jumping from a high window to the street. Several other occupants of the building, in their flight, ignored the fire escapes, and, thrown down to the pavement forty feet below, jumped from the windows. A number of these had their legs and arms broken by the fearful leap. A harrowing incident of the calamity was the appearance of a youth named Rickford, who, with his little sister in one arm, hung suspended from a window by the other for some minutes, until the flames surrounded him and caused him to lose his hold and fall to the ground. He had both legs fractured and the child was also severely injured. The intensity of the flames gave the building the appearance of a furnace but this did not deter the firemen, many of whom entered the house and by heroic struggles succeeded in rescuing several persons.

**A New Governor for Nuevo Leon.**

MONTREY, Dec. 13.—Telegrams received from the City of Mexico this evening announce the appointment of Gen. Ballesteras as provisional governor of the state of Nuevo Leon. A decree proclaiming martial law was published this afternoon by Gen. Bernardo Reyes, who was lately appointed governor and military commander. Gen. Reyes will be relieved by Gen. Ballesteras as soon as the latter can reach here. He started from the City of Mexico to-day.

**Will Obey Only Iglesias.**

LIMA, Dec. 13.—Col. Belaye, commanding the central division, replying to a note of recall sent him by the new government, says that when the same is sent by Gen. Iglesias, under whose orders he is serving, he will comply therewith. Last night Minister of Justice Munster Tovar was the object of a hostile demonstration from a mob, who collected in front of his residence.

**He Must Be Tired.**

LONDON, Dec. 13.—Gladstone has written a letter thanking those persons who have congratulated him upon the result of the elections. He has been receiving an average of 3000 letters monthly.

**Russia's Little Hacket.**

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 13.—Russia made overtures to Prince Alexander, offering assent to the union of Bulgaria and Rumania, on condition that the policy of Bulgaria be subordinated to Russia's policy. Russian agents are actively intriguing at Belgrade to dethrone Milan in favor of Karageorgovich.

**Pastor Will Cure Him.**

PARIS, Dec. 13.—A son of Melkonian, the celebrated painter, was terribly bitten by a rabid mastiff in his father's garden to-day. The victim was immediately sent to Pasteur for treatment and the latter declares that the patient's recovery is certain.

**Outspoken Opinion.**

LONDON, Dec. 13.—The Standard this morning, for the first time, is outspoken for a refusal of Parnell's demands. To acquiesce in them, it says, would be suicide; to compromise, folly.

**Equally Balanced.**

PARIS, Dec. 13.—The parliamentary committee is equally divided for and against the raising of duty on American cereals and cattle.

**They Did Make the Treaty.**

LONDON, Dec. 13.—The Times confirms the statement of the forming of a treaty between Frisbe and Harush at Mandelay.

**Distance Gold Mines.**

PARIS, Dec. 13.—Herr Kinwald writes to the Cologne Gazette that he has discovered extensive gold mines in Zululand.

**A Great Life Ending.**

WASHINGTON, GA., Dec. 13.—Gen. Robert Toombs is in a very critical condition, and his death is momentarily expected. Dr. Mulligan, his physician, says he cannot live forty-eight hours. For some weeks he had been rallying rapidly, but the relapse came yesterday.

**A Big Labor Union.**

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Dec. 13.—President Harris of the Amalgamated association, who has been establishing lodges in this vicinity for a week past, stated that nearly 10,000 miners and laborers had joined the order. The work of organizing new lodges is still going on.

**Art Gallery Opened.**

NEW ORLEANS, La., Dec. 13.—The art gallery of the American exposition opened to-day with a reception attended by several thousand persons. The opening address was made by Commissioner General Pitkin. Great changes have been made and handsome decorations added since last season. The collection of paintings on exhibition numbers about 400 works, most of which were selected by Superintendent W. S. Howard from

European studios, and includes many striking pictures of great excellence. Altogether the display is regarded as very creditable.

**Delegates to the National League.**

GALVESTON, TEX., Dec. 13.—The Galveston branch of the Irish National league held a meeting, and elected Gen. A. G. Malloy and Thos. Goggan as delegates to the national convention of the Irish national league, to be held at Chicago next month. Both gentlemen are representative Irish-Americans, and their selection is generally approved.

**A Blaze at Big Spring.**

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE.  
BIG SPRING, TEX., Dec. 13.—About noon to-day a fire destroyed a small trestle in the Texas Pacific Railway yard, and was communicated to a caboose standing near and almost ruined it. The loss is about \$300.

**A GREAT MAN GONE.**

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 13.—Hon. B. Gratz Brown quietly crosses to the Un-

seen Shore.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 13.—Hon. B. Gratz Brown died at his residence in Kirkwood suburb, this city, this morning of pneumonia, complicated with heart disease—aged 59 years. Mr. Brown was a prominent figure in the politics of this state for a number of years. He also earned a national reputation and made the first emancipation speech ever delivered in the Missouri legislature, and in connection with Frank P. Blair, became an active promoter of that cause. He entered the Union service at the outbreak of the war and after the close of that contest joined what was known at that time as the Liberal movement, in this state, which resulted in his election as governor of the state and the re-enfranchisement of the Secessionists. Subsequently he was elected to the United States senate and served one term. Later he was nominated vice-president of the United States on the Greeley ticket. He ranked high as a man of ability. He was philosophical in his tendencies and regarded as a profound thinker.

Benjamin Gratz Brown was born in Lexington, Ky., May 25, 1826, graduated at Yale in 1847. He commenced the practice of law at St. Louis, Mo., was a member of the state legislature (1852-58) and edited the Missouri Democrat (1854-59). On the breaking out of the war in 1861 he raised a regiment and fought on the side of the Union. He afterwards commanded a brigade of militia. He was among the most active and influential in procuring the adoption of the ordinance of freedom in 1864 by the state of Missouri. He was United States senator in 1865-67, and was made governor of Missouri in 1871. He was nominated at the Cincinnati convention, May, 1872, for the office of vice-president of the United States, the Hon. Horace Greeley being the nominee for president.

**DOWN IN INDICED.**

Roscoe Conkling and Ben Butler to Den-

ty Him.

BOSTON, Mass., Dec. 13.—Rev. W. W. Dowds, against whom an indictment was found yesterday by the grand jury for adultery, preached to a large audience this evening in Mechanics' hall. At the close of his remarks he introduced the Hon. Marcus P. Norton, who made the statement that a syndicate of Boston lawyers had been formed for the defense of Downs in the forthcoming trial. The active counsel for defense would be Hon. Roscoe Conkling and Gen. B. F. Butler. Mr. Norton bitterly denounced the grand jury's action as having been brought about by fraud and perjury, and delivered a tirade against churches. He said it was now proposed to uncover volcanoes of corruption in two houses, called churches, in this city, and the result would be the greatest sensation ever known in Boston. It may be stated that Mr. Norton has recently been under treatment at an insane asylum, having been a victim of the opium habit.

**NATURE'S FIRST LAW.**

Miners Who Denounce a work Will Defend

Themselves Against Strikers.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Dec. 13.—The Commercial-Gazette will publish to-morrow a lengthy communication from James Briggs, a miner employed at the Allegheney mines of Linn & Co., in which he makes the startling statement that, as the outcome of last week's riots at Pine Run, the working miners have organized for the purpose of defeating themselves against future attacks of strikers. He says they have sworn to a compact demanding life for life, if any of their number falls while going to work. Having always lived honest, honorable lives, and been good citizens, they will not be shot down without revenge. The letter defends the working miners, and asserts that few persons not located near the Monongahela valley have any idea of the terrorizing, threats or intimidations used towards those refusing to join the strike. Today being Sunday all was quiet about the river.

**SAD CASE OF DESTITUTION.**

Two Families Poor, and Have the Bili-

zard in the Northwest.

BURLINGTON, Iowa, Dec. 13.—A most horrible case of poverty and exposure has come to light, which will probably result in the death of two human beings. A few days since a family of French Canadians, composed of two men, two women and half a dozen children, barefooted and poorly clad, arrived in this city from up the river en route to St. Louis. The party traveled in two two-wheeled carts, and with them two men, which the male members of the party led about the streets giving exhibitions, while the women and some of the older children engaged in collecting alms. Tuesday the party started south, the weather being cold and a snow-storm prevailing. To-day the party were discovered in a camp, about six miles south of the city, where one of the women had been delivered of a child, the mother and child lying on the bare and frozen ground. The discovery was made by two ladies passing, who took the woman and child to a house. The father reports that both will probably die.